

The Price of Eye Strain  
IS BLURRED AND MISTY  
READING, HEADACHES,  
AND ILL HEALTH  
GENERALLY.  
Wear Suitable Glasses.  
N. LAZARUS  
OPTICIAN  
21, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

# The China Mail.

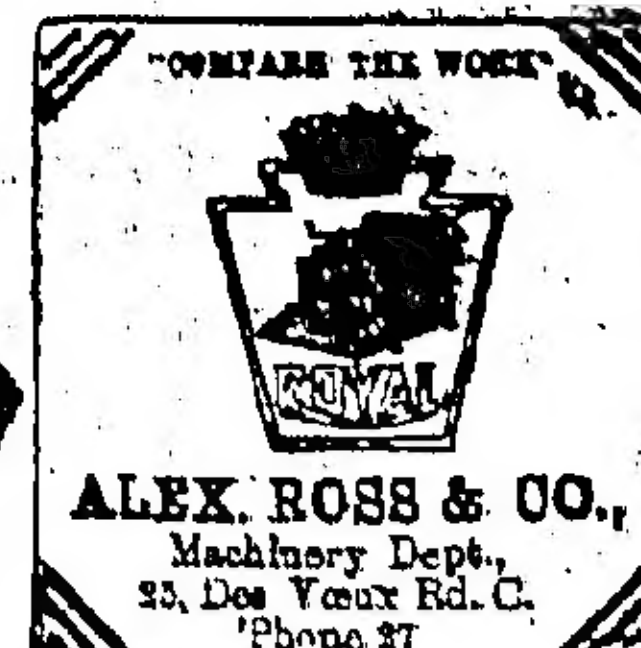
ESTABLISHED 1845

February 5, 1920. Temperature 56°

Rainfall 0.00 inch

Humidity 66

February 5, 1920. Temperature 66°



ALEX. ROSS & CO.,  
Machinery Dept.,  
25, Des Voeux Rd. C.  
Phone 27

No. 17,867.

四拜禮

號五月二年十二百九千一

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1920

日六二月未己亥歲年八國民華中

PRICE \$3.00 Per Month

## BUSINESS NOTICES

### W. S. BAILEY & CO., LTD.

ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS,  
HONG KONG.

Marine and Land Engineers, Boilermakers,  
Founders, Motor Boat Builders.

HARBOUR REPAIRS CALL FLAG "L".

SOLE AGENTS FOR "KELVIN MOTORS".

Telephone:—Works K.31; Manager K.32; Harbour Engineer K.140;  
Works Supt. K.410.

TELEGRAMS:—"SEYBOURNE."

### DRAGON MOTOR CAR CO.

(THE EUROPEAN GARAGE)

Agents in South China for—

HUDSON, ESSEX, OVERLAND and

DODGE BROTHERS CARS.

New Hudson, Overland & Dodge Brothers cars expected shortly

CARS FOR SALE. CARS FOR HIRE.

Motor Bus Service to Repulse Bay Hotel.

Motor Buses for Hire. Terms on application.

Tel. 484. THE DRAGON MOTOR CAR CO. Tel. 482.

## INFLUENZA COLDS, CATARRH, &c.

In view of the prevalence of above, we are now manufacturing  
in our own laboratory from ingredients suggested  
by eminent medical authorities

### NASALENE

Put up in two forms  
Ointment & Spray.

These preparations we can thoroughly recommend as a  
prophylactic in INFLUENZA being easy and simple in use.

Ointment in pots or tubes 60 cents.  
Sprays Solution \$1.00 each.  
Sprays for Solution \$2.50 each.

### A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

Manufacturing Chemists,  
Hongkong.

## YEE SANG FAT CO.

### GRAND ANNUAL

## SALE

IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

COME EARLY TO SECURE BEST BARGAINS.

THEY ARE GOING FAST.

'Sale for Cash only.

## YEE SANG FAT CO.

Corner of Queen's Road & D'Aguilar Street.

TEL. 1355.



## DONNELLY & WHYTE.

WINE MERCHANTS.

TEL. No. 686

## TRAINING TIMES.

A thick fog over the Valley this morning made the work of timing the  
gallops very difficult and in many cases more or less a matter of guess  
work. The times taken follow:—

Moonshine.—35; 1.08; 1.43; 2.5.  
Gentle Cat.—33; 1.08; 3/5; 1.41; 2.5.  
Mountain King.—37; 1/5; 1.11; 1.46; 1/5; 2.19; 2.50.  
Pawshop.—34; 1.10; —; 2.23.  
Sunspot.—33; 1.06; 2/5; 1.39; 2.5.  
Allied King.—35; 3/5; 1.09; 1.42; 3/5; 2.17; 4/5; 2.48; 3/5.  
Charles.—37; 2/5; 1.13; 1.44; 3/5.  
Louza (1 1/2 miles last)—35; 1.08; 1/5; 1.41.  
Tredegar and Trelawny.—38; 1.15; 3/5; 1.52; 2.27; (Tredegar  
2.30; 1/5).  
Sand Martin and Cigar Box.—36; 1.09; 1.43.  
Sandy.—43; 1.07; 3/5; 1.39; 2.5.  
Purity Dahlia.—35; 1.09; 1/5; 1.41; 3/5.  
Trumpet.—36; 1.12; 1.48; 1/5; 2.22; 1/5.  
Eclipse Dahlia.—35; 1.09; 1.41.  
Mighty King.—38; 1.15; 1.52; 2/5; 2.27; 3/5; 2.57; 3/5.  
Kipper and Uncle.—40; 1.17; 1.54; 2.30; 3.04.  
Ludlow.——; 1.08; 1.44.  
Wee Mouse.—35; 1.12; 1.48; 2.21.  
El Dorado.—34; 1.05; 2.5.  
Valley King.—39; 1.15; 1.51; 2.21.  
Dunford and Nutford.—36; 1/5; 1.14; 2/5; 1.50.  
Sovereign Dahlia.—33; 1.05; 1.37; 3/5.  
Scotchbox and Snuffbox.—37; 2/5; 1.12; 3/5; 1.45; 3/5. (Snuffbox  
1.47).  
Orion.—42; 2/5; 1.23; —; 2.39; 3.14.

## A TECHNICAL "ENTENTE CORDIALE."

The inaugural meeting of the British  
Section of the Societe des  
Ingenieurs Civils de France was held  
at the Royal Society of Arts, when  
Mr. C. H. Worthingham, C.B.E., hon.  
president of the new section, took  
the chair. In the course of his re-  
marks, Mr. Worthingham stated that  
France and Great Britain had been,  
during the last five years, in close  
co-operation fighting a common foe;  
their association in arms had led  
to similar ones being  
established in art, literature and com-  
merce, which still further strength-  
ened the ties between the two  
nations. Engineering had played a  
most vital part in the late war, and  
it was clearly evident that it could  
not be allowed to lag behind; it was  
therefore thought that a close as-  
sociation should be promoted also  
between the engineers of both nations.  
Hence the creation of the British Sec-  
tion of the French Society of Engi-  
neers, a society which embraced all  
branches of engineering activity, civil,  
mechanical, electrical, mining and  
metallurgy, administrative, &c. Mr.  
Worthingham gave a short historical  
review of the French Society since  
its inception, in 1848, and recalled  
the fact that several British names  
could be found in the list of those  
eminent engineers who had been  
identified with the work of the society.  
The British Section would make for  
a closer intercourse between British  
and French engineers and works.  
Mr. Worthingham then introduced the  
president for the first session, Mr.  
Guerrit, director of Messrs. L. G.  
Mauchel and Partners, Limited, who  
said the object of the  
British Section was to form  
a link between the technical institu-  
tions here and the corresponding  
ones in France. It would keep the  
specialists residing in France posted  
upon the papers to be read before  
British institutions, when French  
technical men could take part in the  
discussions, thus internationalising  
the latter, throwing into relief a  
number of various aspects of the pro-  
blems under review, and promoting  
friendship. The Section would also  
work for arriving at an understanding  
with the British institutions for the  
acceptance by the latter of French  
diplomats with a view to member-  
ship, in lieu of British diplomas or  
examination. It would further pro-  
mote the exchange for temporary  
periods of students and young engi-  
neers of the two countries. The  
Section also would read and discuss  
papers; in this, it would not duplicate  
the work of existing institutions, for  
the papers in question would deal only  
with engineering matters affecting  
Franco-British relations. In short, the  
British Section of the French Society  
aimed at establishing a technical  
entente cordiale. Mr. Gouvy, the  
well-known French metallurgist, a  
member of the French Society since  
1882 and, also, an influential member  
of the society's Committee on Mining  
and Metallurgy, who had been sent  
specially from Paris by the council  
of the society to represent them on  
this occasion, emphasised the neces-  
sity of strengthening the union be-  
tween the engineers of the two  
nations and added that the present  
time for the formation of the  
British Section was most opportune,  
for competition by the German in-  
dustries was already most active, and  
would increase year by year. The  
council of the society thanked the  
promoters on this side for their work.  
In the course of a brief discussion  
which followed, all the speakers  
welcomed the new British Section of  
the French Society. The temporary  
address of this is 45, Great Marl-  
borough-street, W.1.—Engineering.

## SHIPPING PERSONALIA.

Mr. G. L. C. Johnson, chief officer,  
"Chekiang," is on leave.  
Mr. L. G. Fugler, supernumerary  
chief officer, "Hsin Peking," has gone  
chief officer, "Chekiang."  
Mr. A. C. Edwards, third engineer,  
"Hsin Peking," has gone third engi-  
neer, "Shengking."  
Mr. S. Vaughan, third engineer,  
"Shengking," has resigned.  
Mr. T. S. King, acting master,  
"Wingsang," has gone super-  
numerary chief officer, "Tungwo."  
Mr. G. D. Grant, from reserve, has  
gone chief engineer, "Kutwo." Mr.  
A. Buntain, chief engineer, "Kutwo,"  
is on leave.  
Mr. A. J. Begley, from reserve, has  
gone chief engineer, "Wai Shing."  
Mr. P. Deidriks has been appointed  
second officer, "Kungping."  
Mr. E. Strandell, from leave, has  
gone chief officer, "Kianghsu."  
Mr. W. Bishop, chief officer,  
"Patriot," has resigned.  
Mr. P. C. Hutchence has gone  
chief officer, "Patriot."  
Mr. E. J. Bucknell, second engineer,  
"Patriot," has resigned. Mr. R. J.  
Martin has been appointed second  
engineer, "Patriot."  
Mr. N. E. O. Hansen, chief officer,  
"Mingshun," is on leave. Mr. A. J.  
Kaimin, from leave, has gone master,  
"Mingshun."  
Mr. C. R. Macdonald, chief officer,  
"Shimon," has resigned.  
Mr. W. C. Youngs has been ap-  
pointed chief officer, "Shimon."  
Mr. J. McNicol has been appointed  
chief engineer, "Shimon."  
Mr. W. O. Nicoll, chief engineer,  
"Shimon," has resigned.

## THE WEEK'S NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES IN CON- TROLLED FACTORIES.

Attention may be drawn to the  
decision delivered by Sheriff Fyfe  
for the Glasgow Munitions Tribunal.  
In this decision it was pointed out  
that, on the cessation of hostilities,  
the Ministry of Munitions Act, 1918,  
kept in force certain provisions of  
the Munitions Act, 1917, in-  
cluding the clause relating to  
the week's notice, in order to  
prevent large numbers of workmen  
suddenly being thrown out of em-  
ployment. This provision was still  
in force in all works employed on, or  
in connection with, munitions. It  
did not matter that the actual manu-  
facture of munitions had ceased  
at the armistice. The character of  
the work itself determined whether  
it came under the term munitions.  
Whatever was, or is, the destination  
of the work, if it was adapted  
for use in war, though there might  
now be little chance of  
its being so used, it was as  
much munition work as it was at the  
time of the armistice, for the purpose  
of this Act embodying the clause re-  
lative to the week's notice. There  
was still "employment on or in con-  
nection with munitions work" in the  
statutory sense. In such works there-  
fore the week's notice had to be  
given to men prior to their discharge,  
or wages in lieu.—Engineering.

## BEWARE OF COLDS.

CHILDREN are much more likely to  
contract the contagious diseases  
when they have colds. Whooping cough,  
diphtheria, scarlet fever and consump-  
tion are diseases that are often contracted  
when the child has a cold. That is why all  
medical authorities say beware of colds.  
For the quick cure of colds you will find  
nothing better than Chamberlain's  
Cough Remedy. It can always be  
depended upon and is pleasant and safe  
to take. For sale by all Chemists and  
Druggists.

## EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

### THE BRITISH EMPIRE AIR POWER.

LONDON, February 5th.  
Major-General F. H. Sykes, lecture  
which he delivered before the Geographi-  
cal Society was attended by a large and  
most distinguished company which includ-  
ed H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and  
official representatives of the Dominions.  
The President (Sir Francis Young-  
husband) said that H.R.H. the Prince  
of Wales was doing Empire work of the  
greatest importance. He had been success-  
fully endeavouring to put various parts  
of the Empire on good terms with each  
other, and he had made himself a very  
precious Empire asset. He hoped the  
Prince would learn from the lecture some-  
thing of how he might in future, possibly,  
go to Canada, Australia, New Zealand,  
South Africa and other parts of the  
Empire and open Parliaments; and to  
India to open Durbars.  
Major-General Sykes expressed the  
opinion that if the Empire air power,  
both Service and civil, were developed and  
co-ordinated, our air supremacy might in  
the future be more valuable in assisting  
to maintain the world's peace than sea  
supremacy in the past.  
Examining air routes Major-General  
Sykes said that the Egypto-Indian route  
held out many advantages owing to the  
great saving of time that was possible  
compared to sea-voyaging. Similar com-  
ment applied to the route from Cairo to  
Baghdad. South Africa offered  
potentialities which it was impossible to  
pass. The long seaboard of the two  
islands of New Zealand seemed chosen by  
nature for seaplanes. The practicability  
of Malta as an intermediate landing  
ground was now being considered. The  
lecture dwelt on the necessity of co-opera-  
tion by the Post Office. Air mails were  
the real foundation of the whole system on  
which Imperial routes must be based. In  
order to compete successfully in commerce  
aircraft must aim at completing a jour-  
ney in one-third of the time taken by other  
transport.

### EX-GERMAN SHIPS IN BRAZIL.

NEW YORK, January 29th.  
American shipping firms, including the  
Oriental Company, are seeking to pur-  
chase from Brazil the twenty-eight ex-  
German steamers which were interned in  
Brazilian ports.  
It is understood that the Allied Repara-  
tions Commission question the right of  
Brazil to sell the ex-German ships.  
RIO JANEIRO, January 30th.  
The Government states that it has  
accepted in principle the offer of an  
Argentine firm to purchase the ex-German  
ships now in the custody of Brazil, but  
in accordance with an agreement with  
France entered into on December 3rd,  
1918, the Government offered to France  
the right of pre-emption on the same  
terms.  
The French Government was unable to  
reply immediately. Therefore, the  
Brazilian Government postponed the  
transaction.

### CABLE COMPANIES INCREASE CAPITAL.

LONDON, January 30th.  
The Eastern and the Eastern Extension  
Telegraph Companies are both increasing  
their capital by £1,000,000 each to meet  
the cost of extending and improving the  
cable services. The capital will be offered  
to shareholders at par.  
FAR EASTERN CABLE NEWS.

### PARIS, January 30th.

It is reported that the Allied representa-  
tives in Siberia are energetically endeav-  
ouring to induce the Provisional Govern-  
ment of Irkutsk to release Admiral Kolchak  
and hand him over to them on con-  
dition that he promises not to participate  
further in politics.  
The French newspapers are of opinion  
that no blame can at present be attached  
to General Janin, but the allegation  
against him in connection with the arrest  
of Admiral Kolchak must be cleared up.  
General Gaidar, ex-Commander of the  
Czech Forces in Siberia, in an interview,  
declared that Admiral Kolchak had become  
more and more unpopular, owing to his  
increasing dictatorial manner.

### ITALIAN PROTEST AGAINST SLAV AND GERMAN CREW.

ROME, January 30th.  
The Messaggero strongly urges the  
Government to prevent the continuance  
of the scandalous situation whereby  
steamers of the Trieste Lloyd going to the  
Far East have a large percentage of the  
crew composed of Slavs and Germans.  
This is injurious to Italian influence and  
prestige, especially in Japan, whose  
friendship Italy desires to cultivate.

### NORTH BORNEO CHARTERED COMPANY.

LONDON, January 30th.  
Six West Ridgeway (President) and the  
Honourable Mount Stuart Elphinstone  
(Director), of the Chartered Company of  
British North Borneo, left England  
yesterday on a tour of inspection for  
North Borneo.

### THE SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, January 30th.  
Messrs. Montagu's report of January  
28th, states that the rise in the price  
silver is due to a steady supply and the  
strength of the China Exchange and the  
weakness of the American Exchange.

### DON'T COUGH.

IT is absurd to allow a cough to hang  
about you, and you will find that  
Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will cure  
you. You don't know where a persis-  
tent cough will land you. You can't  
afford to allow your throat and lungs to  
become diseased when it is such a simple  
thing to stop a cough with a simple  
and safe remedy. Chamberlain's Cough  
Remedy. For sale by all Chemists and  
Druggists.

## BUSINESS NOTICES

### CORRECT FOOTWEAR



## SHOES

ARE THE FOUNDATION OF GOOD DRESS  
AVOID THE LOSS AND DISAPPOINTMENT  
THAT FOLLOW AN ILL-CHOSEN STYLE  
—AND WEAR THE—

### NETTLETON

STOCKED IN ALL THE LATEST MODELS  
GLACE KID, CALF, PATENT LEATHER.

## J. T. SHAW

Specialist in Men's Wear,  
—NEXT DOOR HONGKONG HOTEL.

Adds, Subtracts, Multiplies, Divides.

## \$10.00 CALCULATOR

Compact and easy to use.

Sole Agents

BREWER & CO.,

Tel. 696.

28 Queen's Road Central.

## J. ULLMANN & Co.

French Firm, Established 1860.

Quality, Variety, Perfection.

## THE FAR EAST BUILDING CO.

CONTRACTORS AND BUILDERS.

REINFORCED CONCRETE SPECIALISTS.

DEALERS IN BUILDING MATERIALS AND ALL  
SANITARY FITTINGS, ENAMEL & PORCELAIN.

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF CONSTRUCTIONAL  
WORK UNDERTAKEN.

OFFICE and SHOWROOM: 8 Beaconsfield Arcade,  
Telephone 3082. (OPPOSITE CITY HALL).

## C. E. WARREN & CO. LTD.

Established 1886. 20 & 21 Des Voeux Road Central.

BATHS & SANITARY FITTINGS  
WATER HEATERS & BATHROOM FIXTURES  
FIRE GRATES & HEATING STOVES  
COOKING RANGES IN ALL SIZES  
HOT WATER INSTALLATIONS  
TILES FOR FLOORS AND WALLS  
CAST IRON PIPES.

## ALLSOPP'S

BRITISH PILSENER BEER

## RAINIER

AMERICAN PALE BEER

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,  
15, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.



## HANDLEY PAGE

MULTIPLE ENGINEED BIPLANES

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Sole Agents for China:

PEKING SYNDICATE LTD.,

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Sub-Agents for Hongkong and South China:

W. R. LOXLEY & CO.,

Hongkong.



## G. P. LAMMERT.

AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER  
AND SURVEYOR.

Public Auctions.

## INTIMATIONS.

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND  
FINANCE CO. LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in this Company will be held at the Hongkong Hotel, Hongkong, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th February, 1920, at Noon for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st Dec., 1919.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 11th February to the 21st February (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be Registered.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,  
General Managers.  
Hongkong, February 3, 1920.

## WISEMAN, LTD.

## TEA DANCE

TO-DAY

(THURSDAY), 5th Feb.  
Dance Tickets 50 cts. each.

D. M. GOODALL,  
Manager.

HONGKONG BOXING  
ASSOCIATION.

PRESIDENT:—His Excellency Sir R. E. Stubbs K.C.M.G., Governor.  
CHAIRMAN:—His Honour Sir William Rees Davies, R.C., Chief Justice.

## THIRD TOURNAMENT.

At "The Ring" Volunteer Headquarters Parade Ground (adjoining Lower Peak Tram Station). Specially constructed Matched, capable of holding 2,000.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14th, 1920,  
at 9.15 P.M.

1-20 Round Contest for the WELSH-  
WRIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE  
COLONY, AND THE HONGKONG  
RESERVE B.T.

Between Sergt. "Sky" Kerrison,  
R.N.Y.P. (Holder),  
And Spoker Eddie Walters, H.M.S.  
"Hawkins" (Challenger).

2-15 Round Contest for the MIDDLE-  
WRIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE  
COLONY, AND THE "HONGKONG  
DAILY PRESS" BELT.

Between Pte. J. H. Mason,  
R.M.L.I. H.M.S. "Hawkins"  
And C.E.R.A. Lee, H.M.S. "Am-  
brose."

3-5 Round Contest for the AMATEUR  
LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP OF  
THE COLONY.

Between Young Maher, ex-Driver,  
R.G.A. (Holder),  
And Sergt. Ward R.N.Y.P.  
(Challenger).

4-5 Round MIDDLEWEIGHT CONTEST.  
Between E.R.L. Sergeant, H.M.S.  
"Ambrose,"  
And Captain Willoughby, H.M.S.  
"Hawkins."

5-6 Round LIGHTWEIGHT CONTEST.  
Between Ships Cook North,  
H.M.S. "Carlisle,"  
And Corporal Cook, R.M.L.I.,  
H.M.S. "Hawkins."

6-5 Round FEATHERWEIGHT CONTEST.  
Between Spelman Webb, H.M.S.  
"Ambrose,"  
And Seaman Deaneburg, H.M.S.  
"Hawkins."

Prizes:—Reserved, \$5. (Ringside raised  
seats) and \$3. (Ringside ground  
level seats).

Unreserved, \$1.  
DOORS OPEN at 8.30 P.M.

BOOKING at MOUTRIE'S as follows:—  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11th,  
Members (and their guests) of the  
Hongkong Boxing Association  
only.

THURSDAY to SATURDAY, Feb.  
12th to 14th, General Booking.  
CASH BOOKING ONLY.

REVENUES:—Messrs. H. J. Gedge,  
(Official Referee) W. Loxan, A.  
Mortimer and Major Rapson D.S.O.  
& G. M. TINSON, Hon. Secretary,  
J. C. WILDIN, Manager.

"WALLA WALLA" MOTOR boats  
are built for your service.

## MEE CHEUNG

HIGH CLASS PHOTOGRAPHER.  
Ice House Street. Tel. 1013.

Portrait taken in any  
Style desired.

Photographic Supplies of  
Every description.

## INTIMATIONS

現代醫學

JUST RECEIVED

from AUSTRALIA a large shipment  
of LACTOGEN, UNSWEETENED  
CONDENSED MILK, STERILIZED  
NATURAL MILK, MALTED MILK  
and SWEETENED COCOA and  
MILK, sold at very reasonable prices  
owing to the present high rate of  
Exchange, especially for Retailers.



SHU FUNG TAI & CO.,  
Sole Agents for Hongkong and South China.  
Nos. 47 & 49, Connaught Road Central, Hongkong.  
Telephone Nos. 1275 & 1276.

## FOR SALE

Fine Collection of

12500

## POSTAGE STAMPS

all different.

Guaranteed Genuine

and all

Nice Clean Copies

for

\$750. net.

GRACA & CO.,  
Dealers in Philatelic Goods,  
Garden Seeds, Toys, &c.  
No. 10, Wyndham Street,  
P.O. Box 620. Hongkong.

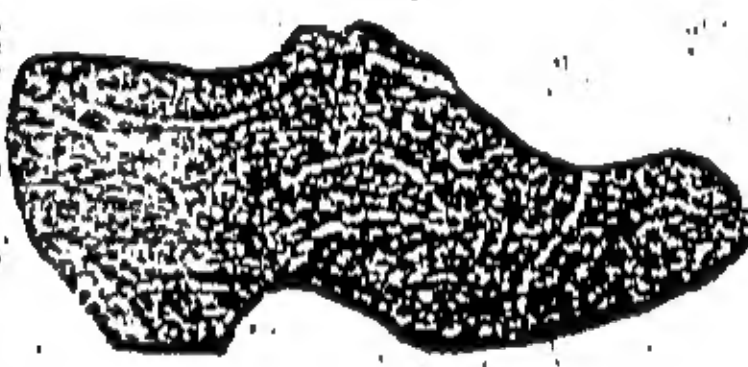
## JAPANESE MAKERS

Every kind of Footwear

MADE

TO

ORDER



CHERRY & CO.,  
52 DORSET STREET,  
Opposite a Hongkong Hotel.  
Telephone No. 491.  
Hongkong, March 30, 1914.

THE NEW FRANCHISE REMEDY.  
THERAPION NO. 1  
THERAPION NO. 2  
THERAPION NO. 3  
No. 1 for Rheumatism, No. 2 for Blood &  
Skin Diseases, No. 3 for Chronic Venous  
Disease. Each bottle contains 100 capsules.  
Solely sold by CHERRY & CO., 52 DORSET STREET,  
HONGKONG. TRADE MARKED WORD "THERAPION" IS ON  
THEir BOTTLE WRAP AFFIXED TO EACH BOTTLE.

## ASAHI BEER



Sole Agents:  
MITSUI BUSSAN KAISAI.

## WILLS'

"CAPSTAN

NAVY CUT"

CIGARETTES.

Fresh Stocks of

MAGNUM SIZE

ARRIVED.

SOLD IN TINS OF 50

This advertisement is issued by British-American Tobacco Co., (China), Ltd.

## NEWS FROM HOME.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

LONDON, Dec. 22.

A RECORD CHRISTMAS.  
There is a tired note in the jubilation  
of the purveyors of Christmas  
fare, even now. For they have been  
overwhelmed by the demand that has  
fallen upon them. Probably the fact  
that the fathers are at home has made  
a big difference.

Anyway, the stores have been  
jammed from morning till night, for  
weeks, and wholesalers, manufacturers  
and retailers all say they have had  
a record.

Another feature of this season has  
been the very large number of foreign  
buyers in town. They first tried the  
manufacturers, and finding them pretty  
well sold out they had recourse to the  
large retailers, where they bought  
whatever they could of high grade  
supplies at very high prices. They  
have also ordered all that manufacturers  
would undertake to deliver within  
a few months. The fact is that the  
Continent is bare of goods.

Many of our manufacturers, especially  
of textiles, are booked up until  
the Spring of 1921. Weavers are  
short in Yorkshire, and though all the  
available looms are at work, the mills  
cannot keep pace with the demands.

In some other lines, however, such  
as footwear, there is a reader dispo-  
sition to accept orders. Steel manu-  
facturers are waking up, especially  
since the strike in America. We are  
even exporting steel to New York, in  
addition to many textiles.

With the New Year will come a big  
burst of activity, and if masters and  
men rise together to their opportunity  
they will soon be doing big things.  
But before we can get very far, trans-  
port handling by land and sea will  
have to be infinitely improved. That  
is the first key to progress.

It is interesting to note, however,  
that in October the Overseas Trade  
Department issued an invitation to en-  
gineering and associated trades to  
negotiate with a leading Canadian  
steel corporation. Only one reply  
came in, but when the invitation was  
repeated in December, sixty firms  
showed eagerness for immediate busi-  
ness.

QUARRELSOME KENTUCKY  
WHISKY.

Now that Kentucky whisky has  
been put into circulation, sometimes  
as what it is and sometimes blended  
with Irish and Scotch whisky, the  
public are finding fault with their  
liquor. Many retailers are finding it  
necessary to alter their arrangements  
and try to get a decent "Scotch" in  
place of the raw American spirit that  
masquerades under fancy names as  
whisky.

The trade itself is rather perturbed  
about the effect on the reputation of  
the Scotch whisky, and many open  
protests are heard of the practice of

blending it. The Glasgow police are  
complaining that since the American  
liquor came here they have had far  
more cases of "fighting drunks."  
This has revived the tale of the Ken-  
tucky senator who told Congress that  
the bottle of whisky he had in his  
pocket "would turn a mule into a  
howling derelict and make a rabbit  
spit in the face of a bull dog."

As nearly every ship that leaves our  
docks nowadays carries exports of  
whisky, you may be having some of  
the effects in your region of the world  
ere long. But if you stick to the  
leading blends I don't think you will  
develop the "fighting" characteris-  
tics of the Kentucky imbiber.

It is suggested that it was this char-  
acteristic that led America to go  
"dry," and that it was an artful move  
to ship into this country all this Ameri-  
can whisky, knowing what its effects  
would be, just when the Prohibition-  
ists are running a stiff campaign to  
extend the "dry" policy to these  
islands.

## DANCING CRAZE.

There is a perfect dancing craze  
just now. It was started by young  
Guardsmen just before the war, and  
officers' home on leave developed the  
vogue. That brought upon us the  
jazz cult, which is now rapidly on the  
wane, except in suburbia.

There is much talk of dancing scan-  
dals, but so far as I can discover there  
is very slight foundation for the talk.  
It must be borne in mind that the  
modern girl is very much emancipated  
since her war experience, and for the  
most part the chaperone is regarded  
as a freak of long ago. The modern  
girl will discuss sex problems or frocks  
with equal freedom, but as a rule she  
knows very well how to take care of  
herself.

SILVER AND COPPER SCARCITY.  
There is a curious shortage of cop-  
per as well as silver change. The  
former is probably explained by the  
fact that the shops make a practice of  
holding as much copper as they can  
during the Christmas season, in case  
they have a sudden demand for  
change.

The effect, more marked in the  
Midlands than in London, is that it  
is often difficult to get what change  
is needed, even at a bank. Many  
people in this country are stated to be  
hoarding silver, with a view to a fur-  
ther rise in value.

## THE POPULAR PRINCE.

The Prince of Wales grows more  
popular with every appearance. His  
speech at the Guildhall the other day,  
on his return from his Trans-Atlantic  
tour, was a triumph.

The training of the Royal children  
has been excellent, and the example  
is so good that it is a pity more of the  
rich families do not follow it.

All who come into contact with the  
Prince of Wales and Prince Albert  
speak in the highest terms of their  
manly simplicity, and absence of  
"side." Prince Albert is, I hear,  
to be made a Duke very shortly. The

brothers frequently walk together in  
town. Nearly every afternoon finds  
them at the Bath Club. "Two sim-  
pler, nicer young English gentlemen  
could not be desired," writes one who  
often meets them there. "It is in-  
teresting to note that they both carry  
quite plain walking sticks, not at all  
comparable with those gold-headed,  
heavy ones to which more swaggering  
youths seem addicted."

## THE POLITICAL OUTLOOK.

It is a sorry instance of the chaos  
of the present that though the Govern-  
ment by common consent are making  
a mess of things, especially as regards  
trade, their position is strong because  
there is no organised party to take  
their place. The Labour party pro-  
fess to be ready for an election in  
February, and the betting was recently  
in favour of an appeal to the country  
about Easter, with the chances very  
good for the Labour men to be in such  
force as to be able to form a Ministry.  
But since then the Labour party has  
lessened in force, and appreciably  
slackened in its thirst for that knowl-  
edge of Government departments  
that is essential to successful adminis-  
tration.

## THEATRES.

French dramatic visitors who have  
been over of late tell me that London  
has gone back seriously as a theatrical  
centre since the war began. I am  
afraid they are right. During the war  
we had a constant series of revues,  
appealing inanities, attracting crowds  
of men on leave because of their  
gaudy, high kicking and display of  
legs that served as a contrast to trench  
conditions.

We have been trying since then to  
get back into a better line, but with  
very sorry results. That is to say,  
there are several plays that are good  
in parts, but they don't hang together,  
convincingly throughout.

So there is a welcome revival of  
Gilbert and Sullivan operas, and when  
I looked in the other night the house  
was packed by an audience that seem  
just as charmed as the audiences of a  
generation ago. As an evidence of  
the "draw" of this revival it may be  
mentioned that all the seats up to half  
a guinea have been sold already,  
though the season has only just begun.

But despite the unconvincing plays  
elsewhere, the public is crazy for  
entertainment and such is the demand  
for seats that at least one manager  
has raised the price, and his stalls are  
now 12s. 6d.

## HIGH PRICES.

Butter at 4s. 6d. a pound! That  
is likely to be our portion in the near  
future. The Food Controller said in  
the House recently that he hoped to  
free all agricultural products from  
control except wheat, probably within  
the first six months of the year. If  
the decontrol takes place in March,  
I am told by farmers that the price  
of home made butter may very likely  
be 4s. 6d. This is because of the  
high price obtainable for milk.

(Continued on Page 2.)

## NOTICES.

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**BOYS and GIRLS.**

### DEATH.

**JOSEPH.**—Mrs. Sophia Joseph, wife of the late Mr. J. A. Joseph, at her residence, this morning, in Rockymount, Conduit Road. Funeral will pass the Monument at 5 p.m., to-day. Aged 73 years.

### The China Mail.

NEWS, JUSTICE, PUBLIC SERVICE.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, FEB. 5, 1920.

### THE RICE BOTCH.

In spite of the long and glozed apologies of the Government, artfully withheld until the public had more or less lost interest in the subject, it is generally considered in Hongkong that the Government when dealing with the rice crisis made a botch of it. The *China Mail* has already called attention to gross carelessness that is not even mentioned in the Government report. A Government cheque for a very large amount was tendered to a firm that had already been paid; and that returned the duplicate payment with an intimation to that effect. We have now to recall our advice given to the Government at the time, as to how to deal faithfully with the profiteers, to note their lame excuses for not acting upon that advice, and to point out and emphasise the undisguisable fact that the merely hypothetical advantages they claim to have secured by disregarding the *China Mail*'s advice have been dearly bought with a loss of somewhat near three million dollars. The author of the interim report thinks that "the indirect advantage to the Colony of the policy [policy] of non-interference with the ordinary rice trade cannot be reckoned in dollars." We make haste to endorse that, for we wouldn't undertake to reckon it in cents, let alone dollars. You have to watch these people playing with words as you have to watch a conjuror handling a pack of cards. Note that they take credit for a policy of non-interference with the ordinary rice trade of the Colony. The *China Mail* never asked them to touch the ordinary rice trade. We urged them to tackle the extraordinary profiteering and gambling that was going on, to the serious detriment of all the ordinary trade of our port, and they wouldn't do it. Why? Other governments could tackle profiteers. Why couldn't they? Why should they have shown such consideration for wealthy gamblers? The report doesn't tell us. It never mentions that. Both for the things it doesn't say and for the things it does, it must be regarded as a damning report, it

an embargo on handkerchiefs, all the men in the Manchester mills would cut off their noses. If we have the best "geographical position," it will have unvalued facilities, we will always have the trade. We have no fear of that.

But now we come to the point where the botch was really made. Granting for the sake of argument that the correct policy was to let exports and gamblers alone, and to "control prices" locally, did the Government enter the rice market wisely? Did it not make a botch of it? Didn't it even forget its own policy of non-interference by commanding stocks held for export, thereby endangering contracts? Didn't its advent as a buyer make the gamblers busier and happier than ever, and shove up the already sky-high prices? Is it not a fact that the mere publication in the *China Mail* of the proposal to restrict exports fetched the prices down a bit, only to be shoved up again by the Government's action? Grant that there was a chance of scaring away (if only for a time) some of our entrepôt trade in rice, wasn't it a certainty that by the procedure adopted we should lose more in a month or two than that trade would be worth to us in a year? The answer is in the affirmative. "It was realized that the Government would have to face a considerable loss." Very well, then. Wasn't a chance (and we still insist on it being a small chance) a lesser evil than a certainty? Isn't it wisdom to choose the lesser of two evils?

The report blames itself for "the valuable experience gained." Valuable is certainly not just. So, we think, is "botch."

### EDUCATION IN HONGKONG.

Somebody said, the other day, that "Whitaker" provided interesting reading. He does! Dealing with Hongkong, Whitaker says "much encouragement is given by the Government to education in the Colony." Sailingpun School is the tangible proof of the "encouragement" to education by the Government. Pupils are turned away and a playground measuring about thirty by ten yards accommodates over 350 boys. Match-sheds for class rooms and other inadequate provision for schoolboys, of a nature calculated to knock the stuffing out of any enthusiastic schoolmaster, constitute the "encouragement." And yet within two minutes' walk of Sailingpun School there exists a building, situated in the centre of a vast compound, which is practically unused. We commend these facts to the editor of Whitaker. No doubt the Government will find it "interesting reading."

### ADVERSARIA.

WE TAKE the proof sheets of the "leader" which assumes pride of place to-day in these columns (although all good judges declare that an ounce of "adversaria" is worth a ton of leader) we take back all we have ever said about the stupidity of leader-writers. Our usually stodgy colleague has achieved something like a straightforward talk in his article on what he calls "the rice botch." "Botch" is a good word with an explosive value. If we may say so without seeming to boast, which would be wrong, he has caught something of our own limpid style. All the same, as we said when we refused to tackle that rice report, it only amounts to "crying over spilt milk."

What a pity "Benedictus" left Hongkong for Shanghai. We fear they will not appreciate his poems up there as much as we did. Here is the concluding stanza of one he has recently "humbly dedicated to one of the K-sisters." By yonder gallant insects on the sea, I swear to own 'thy honeyed lips and cheeks, Sweet earthly paradise that mortal seeks, Fair Angel of my dreams, I'll find thee in thee!

It must be admitted by all lovers of true poetry that when "Benedictus" gets to "gallant insects on the sea" he comes well up to scratch. Talk of throwing stones and spreading circles! One cannot be too careful. Who would have thought that when we remarked quite incidentally and casually long ago in this column that Editor Young of Kobe was one of the best two leader-writers in the Orient, we should have brought upon him a vicious personal attack a column long in the semiliterate columns of the *Kobe Herald*, an obscure little sheet which we would expect to be used in Kobe for soap wrapping purposes? Although it could not seriously annoy the great man (for Robert Young is a great man) we feel we ought to apologise to him. We didn't mean it.

The vicious personal attack is signed S. K. HE? de C. Jose, with a caret over the final "e" that suggests he is some kind of a Dago. We are wondering whether he may not be an employee on the staff of the paper he writes in. Who is he? What is he? The office boy, or the youth who delivers the papers? We don't know, and it doesn't matter.

because the character and diction of his letter "betrays sufficient." It begins: "A recent issue of the *China Mail*, Hongkong, contained the surprising information that one of the two best leader-writers in the Orient is Editor Young of Kobe." It says one of the things the writer has always detested to do is to indulge in personalities—and then plunges into 'em bald-headed. We don't share that canting objection to personalities. The Bible is full of them. All straightforward writing consists of them. Eulogies are personalities. Who objects to them? However...

We propose to be as "personal" about JACKANAPES, this jackanapes, this butterlin, as we would be about Judas Iscariot, or Jack the Ripper, or any other popular hero, because (if he isn't a hiring dummy put up to throw stones for somebody else) his impudence in daring to pretend to have an opinion on such a subject deserves a whipping. His English is not good enough. His intellect would be more appropriately occupied in a rabbit hutch, separating good lettuce from bad. It is as plain as a pikestaff that when we praised Mr. Young as a leader-writer we were thinking of his erudition, his composition, his conspicuous style, and not of his personal preferences in politics. Yet this journalistic rodent refers throughout to his politics, only once touching on his English, and then to tell a ludicrous lie. In a long letter of almost Babu English, this Kobe lunatic has the amazing effrontery to accuse Mr. Young of "stereotyped phrases." Blockhead! He says Mr. Young "delights in emulating the spirit of contradiction." Ass! Of course he does, (though "emulating" wasn't the right word) since he happens to be a lonesome learned and wise man in the midst of a crowd of jabbering journalistic idiots. Finally, Mr. S. R. de C. Jose-nosey suggests that the *China Mail* must have been joking. We were not, and we are not joking now, when we say that the editor of the *Kobe Herald* ought to be ashamed of himself for publishing such a spiteful, stupid letter. If no men were employed on newspaper staffs in the Far East other than those who could pass some test of educational fitness, the market value of the few able ones would be remarkably enhanced. Between the *Japan Chronicle* (Mr. Young's paper) and the piffing publication in which this offensive criticism appeared, the difference is as that between the sun and a tin lantern.

### THE CASTLEFIELD CHARTER PARTY CASE.

### APPEAL TO PRIVY COUNCIL.

In the Supreme Court, this morning, before a full Court, the Chief Justice and Justice Gompertz sitting, application was made by Toong Yue for leave to appeal to the Privy Council against the decision of the Full Court of appeal of Hongkong, delivered on January 17th last, in the case in which the Castlefield Steamship Company and the Attorney General claimed from Toong Yue, shipowner of Shanghai, damage for breach of a Charter Party.

Mr. C. G. Alabaster, on behalf of the applicant said that under the rules they were entitled to appeal, the amount involved being considerably over \$5,000.

The Hon. Mr. Sharp, for the respondent, said they did not object to the appeal but were entitled to be paid the amount of damages and costs awarded by the Full Court. He was prepared to supply suitable security and guarantee for repayment in the event of the Privy Council reversing their Lordships' decision. The Application was granted.

### CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.

### GOVERNOR RECEIVES DEPUTATION.

Yesterday the Governor received a deputation of the Committee of the Constitutional Reform Association. It is understood His Excellency expressed himself sympathetically upon the question of the principle of election, instead of nomination, in the case of the non-Chinese unofficial members of the Legislative Council, also upon the question of there being a larger electoral body than at present for the election of some of the unofficial members.

### LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Today's dollar is worth 5s. 8½d.

Commencing from date and until further notice, the train at present advertised to leave Kowloon at 12.1 p.m. on Saturdays only will be run on ordinary week days, returning from Saum Chun at 5.04 p.m.

Spend your Evenings in a "WALLA WALLA" Launch.

### SPECIAL CABLE.

### AIR HERO AT SHANGHAI.

[CHINA MAIL SPECIAL.]

SHANGHAI, Feb. 5. Major McBain was yesterday awarded (presented with?) his force and military crosses at Sir Everard Fraser's residence, in the air presence of a distinguished gathering. He has a splendid record. He brought down thirteen enemy planes, and led the squadron in the final rout of the Bulgarians. He was recently elected vice-president of the Shanghai Aero Club. He has ordered a private aeroplane which is shortly arriving.

### CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

(By arrangement with Wah Tsz Yat Po.)

SHANGHAI, Feb. 4. It was decided at the Cabinet Meeting that in dealing with the Shantung case moderation should be observed. Suggestions to take drastic measures will not be accepted. The students' decision to strike has been abandoned in favour of resumption of schooling. They however propose that their spare hours be taken up for the delivery of Speeches to the Public.

The Ministers of Finance and War have jointly telegraphed to all provincial authorities that the military expenditure be reduced to a minimum as the military cost for the 8th year of the Republic is already \$16,000,000 above the estimate.

Tientsin is under martial law.

It is reported that the Japanese Minister at Peking has received instructions from his home Government to oppose the Shantung case being dealt with by Mr. Lu Ching Chang, and also to suggest that the conference for the case be removed to Tokyo.

Admiral Fah Chun Ping, the naval Minister, proposes to reform the Lungkow harbour, Shantung, as a naval base.

### THE HELENA MAY INSTITUTE.

### LAST NIGHT'S LECTURE.

Before an audience of about a hundred people among whom were many University students, Prof. Ferguson, who arrived here in the middle of January to teach Education at the University, gave a most interesting talk on Wednesday afternoon about Lord Dunsany's plays. He introduced in a concise manner the author and his leading ideas, which are a sardonic view of life and a great love for dream. One of Lord Dunsany's favourite characters' exclaims: "There is still place for mystery and wonder of things even in this world of science that is 'of truth'." In one of his most popular comedies, *The Tents of the Arabs*, we see both king and camel-driver lost in the world of dreams. But such a privilege should not be bestowed on sovereigns: "A King's crown should be tied to a gold chain and a sceptre driven stake-wise into the ground so that a King may be chained to it." Fortunate wandering camel-drivers! Elsewhere, the dramatist becomes more mocking, let us say: *espégle*, "Life" he thinks, is a gigantic joke played by the universe upon the plans of men just when the mortal thinks all the cards are on the table, there is always just one clap. Once more the gods have been too much for mortals."

Dr. Jordan, province chancellor of the University whose short address followed that of Prof. Ferguson, emphasized the educational value of these plays which carry you beyond mere words to things of a higher nature. Both Lord Dunsany's dramas and comedies are being produced at present with great success in London and New York. This shows that the general public is beginning to appreciate plays with a thesis "intellectual and fancy-tales contrasting with the too popular detective—or otherwise pure—intrigue or emotional plays. *The Gods of the Mountains, the Golden Dome and the Tents of the Arab* are the most successful in Lord Dunsany's repertoire.

Dr. Jordan concluded by inviting the audience to attend the 3 performances of the first and the latter play to be given this month by the Hongkong University Students' Union, which will be a revelation of what Orientals well trained under able tuition can do in that line.

### CANTON.

[China Mail Special.]

Mr. Peter Hing has gone to America to see about buying material for the Canton Street tram. Construction surveys begin at once. Meanwhile, motor-buses will run four being expected soon. The city wall is expected to be down by the end of March, all but the northern section, for the demolition of which there is no immediate occasion.

The military government is going to issue premium bonds.

### COMPANY MEETING.

### KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING CO. LTD.

The annual general meeting of the above Company was held in the Company's Offices, Victoria Buildings, to-day, Mr. T. F. Hough presiding. The others present were Messrs. G. W. Barton, J. Rodger and T. E. Pearce (Directors) W. J. Wilkinson, L. S. Greenhill and R. Tatam (shareholders) and M. S. Northcote (Secretary).

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, The report and accounts having been in your possession for some days may be taken as read.

The net profit for the year \$18,922.46 shows a slight improvement over the previous year mainly due to a decrease in the repairs bill. Rent account itself being only about \$1,600 better.

This improvement enables us to pay a dividend of \$3.00 per share, a figure which has not been reached since the year 1914.

You will recall that at our general meeting last year the Chairman stated that the suggestion had been made that by a re-development of our property the company would reap greater benefit.

Your Directors have gone into this matter, but in view of the existing scarcity of houses in Kowloon they have come to the conclusion that the times are inopportune for the pulling down and rebuilding of our existing houses and they have therefore decided to postpone for the present any action in this direction.

There is, however, no question that something of this nature must eventually be taken in hand. Meantime the property is being thoroughly renovated at considerable cost.

You have no doubt read a great deal in the public press on the subject of rent raising in Kowloon and our property amongst others has been referred to. We are not concerned with the action of other companies or individuals, but it may perhaps be well that I should say a few words on the subject so far as it concerns ourselves. As far back as 1914 the monthly rent prevailing for each of our houses in Knutsford Terrace was \$110.00. In 1915 when about 50% of our tenants from various causes left the colony and the supply of houses exceeded the demand, our rents were somewhat reduced so as to keep the premises occupied, but the demand now having exceeded the supply our rents have again risen until they are again upon a par with the market.

The report and statement of accounts were adopted on the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. G. W. Barton.

Mr. G. W. Barton was confirmed on the Directorate, on the proposition of Mr. Greenhill, seconded by Mr. Tatam.

Messrs. T. F. Hough and T. E. Pearce were re-elected Directors, on the proposition of Mr. Rodger, seconded by Mr. Northcote.

Mr. H. Percy Smith was re-elected auditor with a remuneration of \$50, on the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Pearce.

The Chairman announced that dividend warrants were ready, and could be obtained on application to the office.

There being no further business, the meeting terminated.

### SIBERIAN REFUGEES.

Many thanks are given for the following donations of clothes and boots:—Mrs. Rosser, Kowloon; Mrs. Carpenter, 42, Peak; Mrs. Grimshaw and ladies of Quarry Bay, nine pairs of socks; Mrs. Quaries, Stewart Terrace, Peak; Mrs. Chatham, Inverdrue, Peak; Mrs. N. J. Stabb, Peak; Mrs. M. Wheeler, a trunk and clothes; Mrs. Ross Thomson, Taikoo, Peak, clothes (2nd donation); Mrs. Kring, 8, Tregunter Mansions, per Mrs. L. Dunbar, boots and clothes; Miss Judah, The Den, Castle Road, socks and clothes (3rd donation); Mrs. Pennefather, 6, Observatory Villas, Kowloon; clothes (3rd donation); Anonymous, clothes.

There has been received from—Mrs. E. G. Hiller \$10.00 Anonymous 5.00 Students of St. Stephen's College per Rev. W. H. Hewitt 28.00 Girls of Bellis Girls' School (2nd donation), per Miss E. G. Clarke 18.50 Total \$61.50

For all the above the collectors give most grateful thanks. The \$61.50 will be spent on warm underclothing for children.

Attention is called to the pictures on sale at the Helena May Institute in aid of the Refugee Fund—copies of the "White Horse Knight Sampler"—that was recently to be seen in the lift of Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. These may be bought framed for \$3.00 and unframed for \$1.00.

Parcels, with name and address of sender, and marked "Siberian Refugees," may be sent to Mrs. N. J. Stabb, St. John's Place, Garden Road; Mrs. Moorhead, 459, Peak; Mrs. W. Dunbar, 7, Queen's Gardens, and to the Helena May Institute.

### THE ENERGY OF THE ATOM.

Is there any concealed store of energy recently discovered and not yet utilised? There is indeed. There are two—one certain, the other rather hypothetical: the energy of the Atom and the energy of the Ether. I propose to say nothing about etheric energy. If it exists, as I think it does, it is enormous, exceeding the bounds of imagination; but at present it is utterly beyond our reach. Atomic energy is rather inaccessible too, but not hopelessly so. It is far less in amount than etheric energy, but it is immense compared with any form of chemical or molecular energy, such as that derived from combustion or explosives.

By atomic energy I mean the constitutional energy of an atom—the energy which makes it what it is. If this energy is given up in any considerable degree the substance ceases to be what it was, and becomes a substance lower down in the scale. Utilisation of atomic energy would involve the degradation of matter. The term is purely technical—it has been already applied to energy without moral stigma. All it means is that heavy atoms may become lighter atoms, and in so doing must give off a definite proportion of their great store of energy.

This spontaneously happens in the phenomenon known as radio-activity. If it had not spontaneously happened, we should have known nothing about the energy concealed in an atom. The explosive or radio-active atom has given the secret away. All atoms possess energy, but some cannot hold it all. These are the radio-active elements, and they periodically fire off projectiles with more than volcanic violence. A radium atom firing off a particle, which turns out to be a positively charged atom of helium, is like a two-ton gun firing a hundred-pound shot. That is about the actual proportion between the projectile and the rest of the atom, which naturally recoils each time it fires. The recoil has been observed. Before it has exhausted its ammunition it fires off five such projectiles, and then settles down into a quieter existence as lead—or, if not exactly lead—something chemically indistinguishable from lead. A uranium atom had already fired off four projectiles in order to become radium. Radium is a temporary half-way house between uranium and lead: it is active, but not so fiercely active as some of the intermediate substances which last so short a time that they barely have names. They destroy themselves by their own activity, and consequently are very scarce—like a population with a high death-rate. Radium is of moderate activity: its lifetime is of the order of a thousand years, whereas the lifetime of some of the intermediate substances may be measured in weeks or even minutes.

Yet they are real elements, with a place in the series, and they have definite spectra and chemical properties. Do not suppose that the well-known radium is an exceptional substance. It would seem that all substances of very high atomic weight are liable to behave in this way—it is only a question of degree. And it is not by any means their whole energy that they thus exhibit, it is the energy they expend and get rid of—their was energy—which we perceive. As when we speak of their explosion, it is to be noted that the explosion is not a shattering or bursting of gun, it is merely the firing of a shot except that in the atomic case shot was part of the gun. Energy retained is far more than energy expended. And when its five transformations have ceased left it in a stable state, like lead, gold, or silver or copper, or in any common element, we are surprised that because it is quiet therefore it has no store of energy. Appearances are deceiving. Anyone looking at cordite thinks it harmless enough, and still a suitable stimulus is. It does not, or at least it wanted to, go off spontaneously. Gunpowder and any other exhibits no trace of its secret inspection; nor do the ordinary matter show that fearfully energetic, but the thing—Sir Oliver Lodge in his

### CRICKET.

### C.S.C.C. "A" v. REGT. "A."

The following will play at the Civil Service Club on Saturday 2 p.m. on Saturday 6 p.m. E. T. Crocker (C. A. S. Anderson, F. Bacon, A. R. Duncan, E. C. Finckler, H. Haskett, W. Hill and H. W. Sandford.

### LEAGUES.

### K.C.C. v. H.K.C.

The following have been selected—J. M. Goodall, Stalker, J. V. Brinkell, A. W. B. D. Evans, K. J. G. Ramsey, H. G. G. Sousa, E. Pestonji and C.







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BUENOS AIRES—Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Mauritius, Durban and Cape Town via Singapore.

CANADA MARU—End of February.

BOMBAY &amp; COLOMBO—Regular fortnightly service via Suez.

SAIGON, BANGKOK, &amp; SINGAPORE—Regular Monthly service.

UNNAN MARU—Wednesday, 18th February.

SYDNEY &amp; MELBOURNE—Monthly service taking cargo to New Zealand and Pacific Islands.

MITSUKI MARU—Thursday, 5th February.

MADRAS MARU—Sunday, 12th February.

VICTORIA &amp; VANCOUVER—Tacoma via Manila, Keelung, Shanghai, Nagasaki, Moji, Kobe, Yokkaichi &amp; Yokohama.

AFRICA MARU—Wednesday, 25th February.

KEELUNG via SWATOW &amp; AMOY—These steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class passengers and will arrive at and depart from the O.S.K. wharf near the Harbour Office.

KAIJO MARU—Sunday, 8th February.

TAKAO via SWATOW and AMOY.

SOSHU MARU—Thursday, 12th February.

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For sailing dates and further particulars please apply to—

Y. YASUDA, Manager. No. 1, Queen's Building.

Tel. No. 744 and 745.

HONGKONG, April 1, 1912.

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Estimates furnished on application.

HONGKONG, April 1, 1912.

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CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

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FOR STEAMERS TO SAIL  
HONGKONG—TAIKOO WAN YI—Feb. 6, at 10 a.m.  
SHANGHAI—YINGCHOW—Feb. 6, at Noon.  
SWATOW & BANGKOK—CHANGCHOW—Feb. 9, at 4 p.m.  
SHANGHAI & FUJOU—CHANGCHOW—Feb. 10, at Noon.  
MANTALA ORBU & ILOILO—TAMBO—Feb. 10, at 4 p.m.  
SHANGHAI AND TSINGTAO—CHANGCHOW—Feb. 12, at Noon.  
SHANGHAI AND TSINGTAO—CHANGCHOW—Feb. 12, at 10 p.m.

SHANGHAI LINE—PASSENGERS, MAIL AND CARGO. Excellent Saloon, accommodation, amusements. Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms. Regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong, Shanghai (three weekly) and Tsingtao (weekly), taking cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Wusung.

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TENYO MARU 22,000 11th March.

SHINYO MARU 22,000 1st April.

SIBERIA MARU 22,000 1st April (from Yokohama).

\*PERSIA MARU 9,000 19th April.

\*From Kobe.

\*Omitting call at Shanghai.

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STEAMERS

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Monteagle Mar. 23 April 17

Empress of Japan Mar. 29 April 19

Empress of Asia April 8 April 26

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Empress of Japan May 28 June 16

Empress of Asia June 3 June 21

Monteagle June 4 June 28

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The claims of Egypt to be one of the leading aerial junctions of the future have been strongly urged lately. The position of Cairo on the "All Red" route to India and Australia, at a point where a line through Africa to the south may well break off, appears very important, even if there did not exist already the fine aerodrome at Heliopolis, a legacy of the late war. But it is possible that the thousands already sunk on Heliopolis aerodrome and the "All Red" ideal have caused a natural bias of belief in the aerial future of this place. Apart from political considerations, it is not improbable that the unsuspecting have been misled by Mercator. This eminent geographer rendered a great service to the seafaring community by his well-known system of map projection, but therein he unconsciously laid a trap for the airfaring communities of a later age. The Mercator projection is the sole method of map-making which does not disturb the compass-truth of a map, but this advantage is purchased at the cost of linear distortion. Hence, the larger the district shown by a map, the greater the divergence between true distance and apparent (i.e., scaled) distance.

Hitherto, the knowledge of this fact has been of practical utility in two ways only. Where wide stretches of ocean have been spanned either by steamship or by submarine cable, the apparent direct line has been rejected in favour of the true direct line—at least, so far as other conditions (e.g., coaling stations) permit. The best-known instance of this is given by the England-New York route, which follows on Mercator's projection a curved line roughly tangential to the American coast between Newfoundland and Virginia. In general the principle involved is as follows:—The true shortest distance between two points is the circle on the earth's surface in which the globe is cut by a plane through those two points and the centre of the globe. This circle is known as a great circle, and is drawn on Mercator's projection as a curve bulging away from the equator and with a bulge in proportion to the distance from the equator.

Since an aeroplane is free to pass over land and water alike, and only has contact with the surface at its fuel-stations, and since also the success of aerial transport is in its essence a question of speed of transit, it follows that the aerial routes of the future must tend to become parts of great circles modified possibly by prevailing weather conditions, but preferably—indeed, imperatively—unmodified by inconvenient location of fuel stations and depots.

Having recognised this fundamental, it is now possible to examine the

question of All Red routes. The great airways will tend to follow in general scheme the existing routes of surface traffic, simply because they will serve the same great commercial centres. For the present purpose, it will be desirable to select a few of the most important commercial centres and study their probable lines of communication. The following selection will be ample to illustrate the general outline:—London (for N.E. Europe), New York and San Francisco (for North America), Buenos Ayres and Valparaiso (for South America), Yokohama and Hongkong (for the Far East), Bombay and Singapore (for Southern Asia), Melbourne (for Australia), and Cape Town (for South Africa).

One outstanding fact that is apparent almost at once is that if London be reckoned as the route-centre, none of these routes involves the crossing of the Pacific, the biggest non-stop journey yet to be tackled by air. If, on the other hand, New York or San Francisco be the route-centre, then the Pacific must be conquered before the routes to Australia and the Far East are opened. In the light of the fierce commercial rivalry between Europe and North America, this fact may be one of extreme importance.

A second fact which becomes evident on examination is that those routes which are classifiable as N. and S. routes may be regarded as straight lines on Mercator's projection, whilst those routes which are classifiable as E. and W. routes repay the great circle treatment generously (e.g., London to Yokohama shows a 15 per cent. reduction). This reduction naturally becomes more effective the greater the mean distance from the equator, and for this reason is less marked on oblique routes, though even then well worth consideration (e.g., London to Singapore shows a 4 per cent. reduction).

If, now, the routes between the above-mentioned cities are mapped out, we find that the following are desirable lines:—

London—New York, direct.  
London—San Francisco, via S. Labrador and Winnipeg.  
London—Buenos Ayres, via Cape Verde Islands.  
London—Valparaiso, via Azores and Para.  
London—Yokohama, via Archangel and Irkutsk.  
London—Hongkong, via Riga and Omsk.  
London—Bombay, via Odessa.  
London—Singapore and Melbourne, via Astrakhan and Rangoon.  
London—Cape Town, via Mar-selles and Tripoli.

To some extent, the desirability of serving intermediate stations will render these routes untenable in practice. Also meteorological conditions may render modification desirable. But the broad outlines remain, and serve to raise an important question, that of location of fuel stations.

Take, for example, the routes to China and Japan, and even, in a lesser degree, to Bombay and Singapore.

**FISH STORIES.**

A correspondent writes to the *Rangoon Gazette*: A few miles south of Mandalay there is a village on the bank of a river. There may be several villages for all I know but any way they have nothing to do with this narrative. At the village I am speaking of there is a "Feast of Fishes" every year. I had better explain that it is not the people who feast on fish, and of course the fishes do not feast on the people, but the fish feast on cakes and the people keep holy-day in honour of the occasion. At that season a lot of big fish, a sort of cat-fish I suppose, make their way up the river from the Irrawaddy and pilgrims come from far and near to see them and feed them, this being regarded as a pious work. The children go down into the water and play with them. A small boy may be seen astride a big fish pretending to ride it, and strangely enough the fish does not object, seems to like it in fact; but the fish has a very spiny back and some venturesome piscatorial jehus have caused to regret that they did not choose a dolphin instead of a scratchy cat fish. The girls and elder folks are content to feed the fish with rice and cakes and it is quaint to see a huge white mouth come up to the surface and grab a cake that somebody is holding. Then there is a tussle, the fish swirling and tugging and the person holding on tight till, in a frenzy of excitement amongst the spectators, the cake breaks and the fish sinks down with its prize. When a Burman wishes to acquire merit he usually sticks gold leaf on some image or other, striking object. Of course these fish are quite important people, probably "nat's" in fact, and so folks stick gold leaf on their heads and one may see quite a number of shining crowns of gold bobbing about in the water while a complacent old gentleman sits on the bank and contemplates his good deeds.

Some years ago fish made quite a stir in Mandalay. Somebody was boring for water and found it with a jerk. It spouted up in a fountain. Of course there was nothing interesting about that, only in the water—were some fish, quite a shower of them. It would seem that the drill had cut into a sort of subterranean lake with fish living in it and when the pressure was taken off, the water and some fishes shot up into the air. If I remember rightly the fish were believed to be blind. Some, I believe, were sent to Calcutta museum.

I was one day walking across the jungle scrub near Ywataung towards the cave of the many Buddhas. The chief characteristic of the place is dust. Not a sign of water is to be found anywhere, not even a well; the drinking water for the people working on the railway is brought in tanks by train. As I walked along I saw something move in the undergrowth and I gave a start when I found it was a fish, a live fish, flopping about as if it had only just left the water. At once all sorts of possible and impossible theories came into my mind to account for it but none seemed to be at all satisfactory. The fish was not a monstrous, nor an eel, nor any thing of that sort, but just an ordinary fish. Then a shadow passed over me and, looking up, I saw a fish-hawk and an eagle wheeling about just above me. It was not so very mysterious after all.

The key to the success of these lines is the arrangement of fuel stations in Russian territory. The present political condition of that country bids fair to be an obstacle that may delay the operation of these routes for many years. In a certain sense, the nations of Western Europe have recognised the economic necessity of internal settlement in Russia, but the fact that Russia is not only a producer, but also a potentially great line of access to other producers, is a fact which cannot be over-emphasised.

A further point of interest is that, with two exceptions—Eastern Canada on the route to Western America and Singapore as a jumping-off point for Australia—the "All Red" ideal breaks down. The wonderful Colonial coaling-station system, in itself a wealth-producer and indirectly a source of great imperial strength, was built up on the basis that a ship cannot cross dry land. Now that the time is drawing near when aerial traffic will be of an importance comparable with marine traffic, it becomes an urgent national question to what extent the "coaling stations" of the air will fall within British territory, and thus foster the growth of British air lines.

**FOOTBALL.****UNITED SERVICES LEAGUE.**

"CARLISLE," 2, "AMBROSE" 1.

The "Carlisle" secured another win in the United Services Football League yesterday, when they defeated the "Ambrose" "A" team on the Military ground by two goals to nil.

The match was not so fast as the one witnessed on the previous day when the "Carlisle" defeated the "Tamar," but nevertheless, it was very exciting and interesting to watch. "Ambrose" assumed the offensive first and kept the ball in enemy territory, but for a while they were unable to score. Then they forced a beautifully placed by their right winger, they scored the first goal of the match. "Carlisle" worked hard after this, but it was not until about ten minutes from the close of the first half, that they equalized. A beautiful shot from their inside right man, placed the ball right into the hands of "Ambrose's" goalie. "Carlisle's" centre forward managed to kick the leather out of the goalie's hands and took a shot at goal, but the ball went into touch, a couple of inches from the right upright. Following the clear by the "Ambrose's" right back, "Carlisle" returned to the attack, and their outside left centered beautifully, the centre forward concealing. At half time the score sheet read one all.

Both sides went out to assume the lead in the second moiety but the defences at both ends were very sound, and it was not until near the close of the match that the "Carlisle," again scored. This time their speedy right winger was responsible for the score. Running down the line at a terrific pace, with which the "Ambrose" men could not keep up, he took the ball right to the goal mouth. The goalie ran out to meet the speedy winger, and they collided heavily, resulting in the latter being rendered unconscious for a good ten minutes, but not before he had had the satisfaction of knowing that he had given his side the lead.

"ALACRITY," 2; WILTSHIRES, 1.

The "Alacrity" team had extraordinary good luck yesterday, when they met the Wiltshires on the Navy ground, and secured the two points at stake by means of two penalties.

The Wiltshires showed their superiority early in the game and before their opponents were aware of the fact that the match had started, they were in enemy territory and were subjecting the goalie to a hot bombardment. Things became so uncomfortable for the custodian, that he was forced to concede a corner to relieve the pressure. The Wiltshires opened the scoring from this corner which was beautifully taken by their right extreme man and placed right at the goal mouth. It took the "Alacrity" men a few minutes to recover from their surprise, and then play became more even, with both ends being visited in quick succession. Towards the close of the first half, the "Ambrose" pressed with keen determination, and the Wiltshires' left back had the misfortune of handling the ball within the penalty area. From the penalty kick which was awarded, Toms equalized for the sailors. One all was the state of affairs at half time.

The second half was equally as fast as the first, with the Wiltshires, again assuming the offensive, but they had very hard lines in not finding the net on two occasions when they had glorious chances of taking the lead, but the ball was shot wide. When the "Alacrity" next attacked, the Wiltshires' left back again bungled by handling the ball within the penalty area. This proved to be the undoing of his side for Toms made no mistake with the penalty kick which was awarded the sailors, and notched their second goal, and incidentally the last goal of the match, for try hard as the soldiers did, they failed to score again.

The league table which includes yesterday's matches, is appended.

CLUB.	E.	W.	D.	P.	A.	P.
H.M.S. "Carlisle" .....	8	7	0	1	21	3
H.M.S. "Tamar" .....	6	3	1	1	8	7
H.M.S. "Ambrose" .....	5	2	1	2	6	4
H.M.S. "Alacrity" .....	4	1	3	0	3	7
H.M.S. "Bawkins" .....	1	0	0	1	1	1
2nd Wiltshires .....	0	0	4	1	2	6
H.M.S. "Marazion" .....	0	4	0	1	2	0

**A FORTY YEARS' TEST.**

CHAMBERLAIN'S Cough Remedy has been curing croup and colds for the past forty years and has gained in popularity every year. What better recommendation is required? For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

**UNION CHURCH.****ANNUAL MEETING OF SEAT-HOLDERS.**

Seatholders of the Union Church met last night at the Church Hall, Mr. J. Mitchell presiding over a fairly large attendance.

The Chairman, in moving that the report and balance-sheet be adopted, said, I am pleased to say that this has been a record year in the Church's history. When our pastor first made the suggestion that something should be done to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the starting of this Church the Committee was pleased to agree with his proposals, and it is due to him that we are in the splendid position of having such a magnificent fund for the benefit of the future seatholders of Union Church. We are grateful to those who before us built such a fine Church and other premises, and we are glad to have been able to do our duty in providing a fund, the interest of which will bring in sufficient to pay all forthcoming expenses. We lost last year a number of seatholders which accounts for the reduction in receipts, but we hope new residents will soon come and fill up the vacancies. We appeal to every attendee to give as generously as possible to the weekly offerings, so that our accounts at the end of this year may be still more satisfactory. As you are aware our pastor will be going on leave this summer, and I am sure you all join with me in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Macdonachie a very good holiday. Before I sit down I wish to refer to the absence of our friend Mr. MacKenzie. He has long taken an active interest in all the Church's work, and we miss him to-night and trust that he may soon recover and be strong and well again. (Applause.)

Mr. C. C. Hickling seconded and the report and statement of accounts was adopted.

The following office-bearers were then elected:—

Trustee: Mr. J. McCubbin.  
Hon. Secretary: Mr. G. M. Shaw.  
Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C. C. Hickling.  
Committee of Management: Messrs. J. L. McPherson, J. Mitchell, A. Stevenson, D. McNeillie, D. Templeton, J. Rodger, E. R. Dovey, and J. McCubbin.

Ladies' Committee: Mesdames J. Chapman, J. McCubbin, C. C. Hickling, J. Mitchell, J. C. Macdonachie, A. Jibson, D. Templeton, J. Muir, E. R. Dovey, J. Macdonald, A. Stevenson and J. Craig.

It was stated in the report that the excess of expenditure over income amounted to \$180.59, and the total deficiency on current account as there by increased to \$1,616.03. Seat Rents and Weekly Offerings have both declined during the year, the falling off being \$349.50 and \$360.68 respectively. Acting upon a suggestion put forward by the Pastor, the Committee decided to establish a Fund, in commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Church, mainly to provide for recurring expenses in connection with Pastoral furloughs and changes. This has been styled "The Three Quarter Century Fund" and the success it has already attained is distinctly gratifying. As will be seen from the accounts the amount of \$14,889.91 has been received; receipts since the end of the year amount to \$1,915, with outstanding promises of \$545, brings the total up to \$17,446.01.

Persistent damp weather last Summer made it appear desirable to raise a portion of the organ away from the ground. This was done at a cost of \$225, and it is expected there will be no further major expense for some considerable time. The renovation foreshadowed in the last report was accomplished in October and the property generally is now in excellent condition, with the exception of the Manse which requires attention. The British and Foreign Bible Society's donations have been collected by Mrs. J. W. C. Bonnar who received \$317 and this with \$55.31 Church offertory amounted to \$372.31.

**THE CORONET.**

"The Better Ole" has proved an immense draw and packed houses have been the rule at the Coronet at every showing. Old Bill and his associates Bert and Alf have kept their audiences highly amused during the whole of the six reels which show their adventures. Their stay in Hongkong is apparently to be but a short one, so no opportunity should be missed of seeing them. "Book early" should be the motto of Coronet patrons during the next few days.

**NOTICES.****DAIRY FARM NEWS.****OUR BUTCHERY DEPARTMENT**

Can supply all your requirements in Australian and Local Meats

RABBITS, HAMS, BACON, SAUSAGES, CORNED BEEF & PORK, etc., etc.

**OUR THIS WEEK'S SPECIALITY**

OXFORD SAUSAGES.

TRY THEM!

THE DAIRY FARM ICE & COOLD STORAGE CO., LTD.

**GOOD VALUE**

IN

**STATIONERY GOODS**

AT

**WHITEAWAY'S****TURNER LINEN STATIONERY**

Boxes of Stationery containing 50 Sheets of blue linen paper with 50 envelopes to match \$1.25 Box.

Turner Linen Memorandum Pads in white or blue. Size 4 1/2 x 7 1/2 inches. 60 cents Pad.

Turner Linen Writing Pads. Full size in white only. Size 9 x 7 inches. \$1.00 Pad.

Turner Linen Envelopes, in blue only. \$1.00 hundred.

The "WAYLOO" Cambric Writing Pad, containing 100 sheets of fine faint ruled Paper. White only. Excellent Value 90 cts. a Pad.

The "BRATRICE" Pad. 75 sheets of fine linen faced Bank paper. With Blotter. 60 cts. a Pad.

The "RIGHT AWAY" Pad. Large Post Quarto White Wove Paper, ruled faint with Blotting Paper complete 30 cts. a Pad.

The "GALA TEA" Box of Stationery, containing 50 sheet Creamlaid paper with Envelopes to match. \$1.50 Box.

"BANKERS" Indelible Ink Powders. Acid proof Water-proof and fade-proof. Sufficient powder to make a Quart of ink. 90 cts.

**WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW & CO., LTD.**

20, Des Voeux Road Central, Hongkong.

**ROUND THE ISLAND OF HONGKONG****THE BREEZY GARAGE MOTOR CARS****AT THE SPECIAL REDUCTION PRICE**

(ONLY ONE-ROUND, NO STOP ON THE JOURNEY.)

Chandler 7 passenger Car - \$12.00  
Hudson 7 passenger Car - \$12.00  
Oakland 5 passenger Car - \$8.00

BREEZY GARAGE 'Phone 2499

(opposite Central Market)

BRANCH DEPOT 'Phone 3478

(opposite The Sun Co.)

**Refreshing the Skin**

A most refreshing Health-pleasure and Toilet ideal, comforting and beneficial to the skin, is daily enjoyed by use of the

"Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap"

—Fragrant made and delicious, for use, Toilet and Bath purposes. Delicately refreshing, reviving perfume. Size 40 years.

Lady C. Howard writes:

"I like the 'Albion and Sulphur Soap' very much; it is pleasant to use and whitens and softens the skin."

Lady C. Herbert-Lampson writes:

"The 'Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap' is an extremely pleasant Soap, and I prefer it to any other I have ever used."

Sold by Chemists, Grocers, Stores, etc. Why not try it?

"ALBION MILK AND SULPHUR SOAP."

HARDWARE AND LOCKS

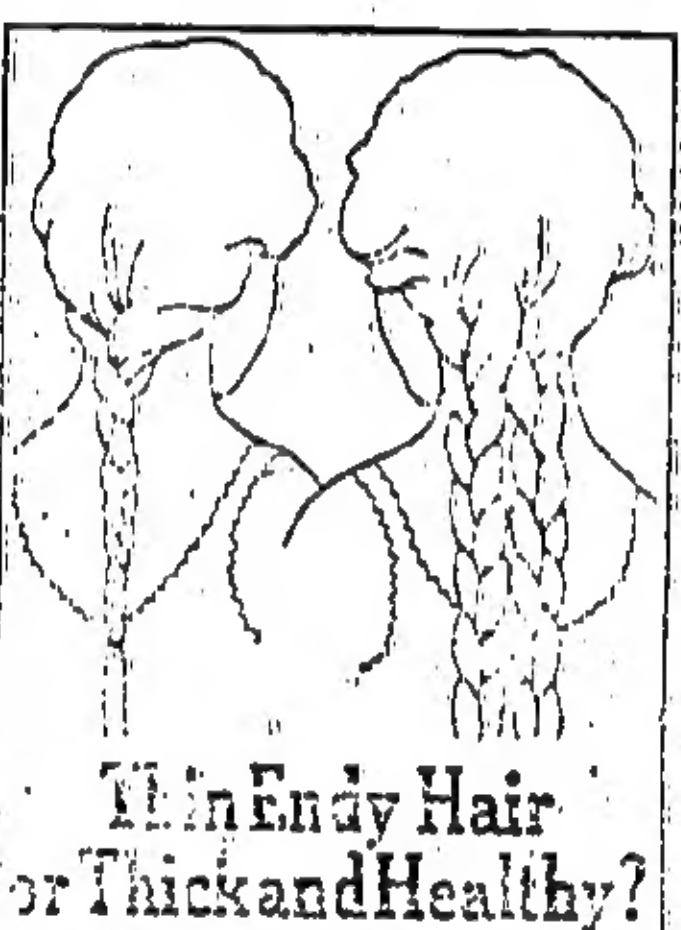


LOCKS AND HARDWARE



THE PERSONAL EQUATION

The human equation eternally defies exact solution, the variety of individual types is too great, and their permutations too various for any easy diagnosis, yet it is impossible to avoid the conclusion that it is perhaps more important than anything else. One individual who refuses to sink his prejudice and remains an unresolvable unit in the common weal, who is intolerable, though clever, finds himself penalized, and very rightly, on this ground alone. For no man lives to himself, he must get into contact with others and make the best of his environment, usual to do this brings speedy retribution in its train. The result is inevitable granted the premises, for we live and move and have our being as men in a world of men. Contact with some people is nearly impossible, they bristle at every pore; such a personality is always set apart to live the cloistered life in any community; he sets himself apart, and may not complain of the result he achieves. Here brilliance may scintillate, but it is more solid and every-day qualities which count towards any end. An impossible person is a rejected individual, he cannot be digested by the mass. Hence the tragedies of genius so termed, the greater minds while preserving their gifts alive are not prone to insist upon these, they subordinate them to living issues. Shakespeare, for instance, contrived to elude the critics of his day, he left no personal legacy, but he left the result of his art for a perennial joy to mankind. Lesser men have achieved notoriety, some live solely by arrogant assumption, some, like Johnson, by reason of their difference to the men who surrounded them. It is not that the great are superhuman, to claim this is to destroy their achievement; they were men fully human who rose to the height of their powers by dint of continual endeavour. Any man can achieve to his limits if he will consistently try to broaden these, once past the common barriers the field is limitless, and the possibilities endless. —Engineering.



**Thin Ends Hair**  
or Thick and Healthy?  
A scalp treated by the Cuticura usually restores the hair to its normal healthy condition. Cuticura is the only preparation that cures itching and irritation of the scalp. Nothing better for the complexion, hair or skin.  
Scalp to clean, Cuticura to treat. F. Newberry & Sons, Ltd., 27, Charterhouse St., London. See everywhere.

"WALLA WALLA" boats are new and fast. Get them at Blake Pier.

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, 6th FEBRUARY, 1920.

OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS.

11 A.M.

STERLING EXCHANGE 5/8 T. T.

Hongkong Bank, ... \$510 s.

MAKING INVESTMENTS.

Canton Ins. ... \$390 n.

North China Ins. ... \$180 n.

Union Ins. ... \$180 s.

Yangtze Ins. ... \$280 n.

Far Eastern Ins. ... \$280 n.

Fire INSURANCE.

China Fire Ins. ... \$138 n.

Hongkong Fire Ins. ... \$501 s.

SAVING.

Douglas ... \$89 s.

H.K. Steamships ... \$204 b.

Indo-China (Prod.) ... \$95 b.

Do. (Def.) 255 b. B. Register

Shell Transport ... \$270 s.

Star Ferries ... \$29 s.

RAFFIA.

China Sugar ... \$201 s.

Malabar Sugar ... \$47 s.

MIXED.

Kailan Mining Adm. ... \$140 s.

Langkate ... \$14 n.

Shanghai Loans ... \$14 n.

Shal Explorations ... \$1 n.

Rails ... \$1 n.

Trench Mines ... \$1 n.

Ural Caspian ... \$1 n.

DOCKS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, &c.

H. & R. Wharves ... \$87 b.

H. & W. Docks ... \$145 b. 150 s.

Shal Docks ... \$105 n. ex div.

New Engineering ... \$28 b.

LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.

Central Estates ... \$178 s.

Hongkong Hotels ... \$115 sa.

Hongkong Lands ... \$104 n.

Humphreys ... \$71 sa.

Kowloon Lands ... \$58 n.

Land Reclamations ... \$123 n.

West Point ... \$58 n.

COTTONS, MILLS.

Ewo Cottons ... \$480 n.

Kung Yik ... \$48 n.

Leon Kung Mow ... \$300 n.

Oriental ... \$290 n.

Shanghai Cottons ... \$315 n.

Yangtze ... \$34 n.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Cements ... \$61 n.

China-Borneo ... \$17 b.

China Lights Old 7 1/2 & New 8 1/2 b.

China-Provident ... \$770 b.

Dairy Farms ... \$20 b. 22 s.

H.K. Electric ... \$187 n.

Macao No. ... \$34 n.

Hongkong Ropes ... \$27 s.

Peak Tramways (Old) ... \$7 s.

do. (New) ... \$80 n.

Steam Laundries ... \$24 b.

H.K. Steel Foundry ... \$10 n.

Water-works ... \$111 b.

Walsons ... \$52 n.

Wm. Powells ... \$12 b.

Wilmans ... \$27 1/2 b.

TAIYO & CO.

BOOTS AND SHOES

MADE TO ORDER

No. 24, Wyndham St.

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LTD.

(Capital Paid up ... \$1,250,000.)

Loans on Mortgage of House Property, &c.

Advances made on the Provident System.

Loans made on the basis of WILL.

ATTORNEYS, &c. Underwritten and Secured.

(Rate and Particulars on application)

to the Office of

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,

General Managers.

BANKS.

ASIA BANKING CORPORATION HONGKONG.

Announces that the Italian Government Treasury have appointed them Fiscal Agents in China to offer

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT 5% CONSOLIDATED LOAN

Subscriptions open until March 10th for these bonds, issuing price Lire 87.50 plus interest.

HEAD OFFICE: NEW YORK.

OTHER BRANCHES:

SHANGHAI PEKING HANKOW MANILA TIENTSIN CANTON CHANGSHA

EXCHANGE.

Hongkong, February 5, 1920.

On London ... \$5-8

On demand ... \$5-8 1/2

30 days sight ... \$5-8 3/4

4 months sight ... \$5-9 1/4

Credit, 4 months sight ... \$5-10 1/4

Documentary 4 months sight ... \$5-10 1/2

On Paris ... \$1380

On demand ... \$99 1/2

Credit, 30 days sight ... \$101 1/2

On Bombay ... \$12

On demand ... \$12 1/2

On Calcutta ... \$12 1/2

On demand ... \$12 1/2

On Singapore ... \$12 1/2

On demand ... \$12 1/2

On Manila ... \$200

On demand ... \$200

On Shanghai ... \$200

On demand ... \$200

30 days sight (private paper) num. ... \$200

On Yenchow ... \$200

On demand ... \$200

Gold Leaf, 100 fine (per tool) ... \$200

Sovereigns (Bank's buying rate) ... \$3.45 n.

Silver (per oz) ... \$85 1/2

Hongkong 50 cents sub. ... 15 p.m.

do. 10 " ... 21 1/2 p.m.

Chinese coins ... 7 1/2 p.m.

Bar Silver in Hongkong ... 27 1/2 p.m.

Chinese Copper Cash ... 5 1/2 p.m.

Chinese Copper Cash ... 5 1/2 p.m.

Rate of Native Interest ... 7 1/2 p.m.

Chinese Sub. Coin ... 7 1/2 p.m.

Hongkong Sub. Coin ... 2 p.m.

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LTD.

(Capital Paid up ... \$1,250,000.)

Loans on Mortgage of House Property, &c.

Advances made on the Provident System.

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General Managers.

THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL BANK, LTD.

Head Office: 12, Des Voeux Road, Central.

Branches: Shanghai, Canton, Hankow, etc.

DOMESTIC & FOREIGN BANKING.

SERVICE PROMPT.

Current, Savings, and Fixed Deposits

bear interest at Rates 2%, 4%, 5%.

Interest on our SPECIAL SERVICE

will be welcomed.

Hongkong, July 7, 1919.

THE CHINESE MERCHANTS BANK, LTD.

HEAD OFFICE: Alexandria Buildings, Chester Road.

General Banking and Exchange business

transacted.

Loans granted on approved securities.

Current Accounts opened and Fixed

Deposits received at rates which may be

ascertained on application.

The Bank also conducts a Savings

Department.

DONG TOY, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, January 3, 1920.

NOTICE.

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.

8.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Every 10 minutes.

9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.

11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.

12.30 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.

2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.

5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.

8.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.

9.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. Every 30 minutes.

11.45 p.m.

SATURDAYS.

EXTRA CAR—12 midnight.

SUNDAYS.

7.30 a.m.

7.50 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.

10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.

11.30 a.m. to 12 noon. Every 15 minutes.

12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

1.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.

5.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.

8.00 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.

9.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.

11.00 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.

NIGHT CARS on Week Days.

SPECIAL CARS by arrangement at the

Company's Office, Alexandra Buildings,

Des Voeux Road Central.

Season and punch tickets available for

all cars not already full running at the

time stated in the Company's time-tables,

but not for special cars, can be obtained

on application at the Company's Office.

No Season tickets will be issued until

payment therefor has been made in Bank

Notes or by Cheque or Comptroller order

representing Cash Notes.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SONS,

General Managers.

NOTICE.

HIGH-CLASS PRINTING

AND

BOOK BINDING

PRINTED AT

THE CHINA MAIL OFFICE

BOOKS & PAMPHLETS SPECIALLY

respected. Trade Circulars

Programmes, Monks, etc., etc.

religiously Arranged and

Carefully Printed.

Urban Prints and prompt delivery

guaranteed.

BANKS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL ... \$15,000,000

RESERVE FUNDS ... \$1,500,000

Sterling ... \$1,500,000

Silver ... \$1,500,000

RESERVE LIABILITIES ... \$15,000,000

PROFIT ... \$15,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:

J. A. Flannery, Esq., Chairman.

Hon. Mr. E. V. D. Farr, Esq., Deputy

Chairman.

J. W. O. Bonner, Esq., P. H. Holyoak, Esq.,

A. E. Compton, Esq., Hon. Mr. J.

Fon. Mr. S. H. Johnston,

Dodwell, W. L. Pattenden, Esq.,

C. S. Gubbay, Esq., Ross Thomson, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:

Hongkong—N. J. STABB, Esq.

MANAGER:

Shanghai—A. G. STEPHEN, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS—LONDON COUNTY &

WESTMINSTER & PAUL'S BANK, LTD.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and

FIXED DEPOSITS received for one

year or shorter periods at rates which

will be quoted on application.

N. J. STABB, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, May 23, 1919.

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE business of the above Bank is



## A CORRUPTING TRADE.

Before Mr. J. R. Wood yesterday afternoon, Mr. Suga, the manager of a Japanese Import and Export firm carrying on business at No. 6 Des Voeux Road Central, was charged as the instance of Chief Revenue Officer J. Wildin that he not being a registered and qualified person, did have in his possession or power, more than 16 doses of a dangerous poison, to wit, 16 ounces of morphine.

Mr. J. H. Gardiner appeared for the defendant and pleaded "Guilty," but asked for a lenient sentence.

His Worship said he would like to hear what Mr. Wildin had to say. Mr. Wildin then went into the witness box and said that he went to the defendant's office, first floor of No. 6 Des Voeux Road Central at 2.30 p.m., on the 21st inst., and asked for the defendant and was told that he was out but that he might be expected back at any moment. Witness waited until 4.30, and as the defendant did not turn up, he decided to go on with the search, for which he had a warrant. In a desk, witness found one pound of morphine which was marked "Smith & Co." in the defendant's desk, witness found a letter (produced), which had a lot of significance in the fact that there were only four firms which manufactured morphine, and in the letter three of these firms were mentioned. This showed that the defendant was carrying on large transactions in morphine. Witness took the drug with him, and left his card with the man in charge of the office. On the following morning the defendant came to see witness at the Import and Export office, and amongst other things, the defendant admitted to witness that he was not a registered or licensed person to possess morphine. Witness then produced a certificate from the Government Analyst, certifying that the drug seized represented 16,000 official doses, and also justifying the issue of the search warrant.

His Worship imposed a fine of \$1,000, and ordered the morphine to be confiscated.

Mr. Gardiner said that as the morphine was worth \$80, he did not anticipate that the fine would exceed \$800, ten times the value of the drug.

His Worship said that the case was a serious one, and he had power to impose a \$2,000 fine.

Mr. Gardiner said that his client had only brought \$800 with him, and asked that that sum be received first on the understanding that his client would pay the balance this morning. This was agreed to. This morning the defendant paid up the balance of his fine.

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## DETECTIVE MISSING.

The Chinese detective who was charged with the theft of two opium pipe bowls from an opium divan in Praya East, when Sergis, Cockle and McFall raided the premises and arrested two armed desperadoes, failed to answer to his name when the case was called before Mr. J. R. Wood this morning.

Inspector Kent said that the defendant had been transferred to the Central Station since the charge was made out against him.

His Worship ordered the case to stand down for enquiries to be made. Later the inspector announced that no one in the Central Station seemed to know anything about the defendant's whereabouts.

His Worship ordered the bail of \$50 to be estreated and issued a warrant for the defendant's arrest.

## POST OFFICE.

Telegraphic Communication with Gap Rock Lighthouse is interrupted.

The insured parcel post service to the province of Szechuen is suspended until further notice.

An agreement has been entered into between the Post Office of China and Hongkong for an exchange of insured letters. The medium of insurance is the French Currency and the maximum amount for which a letter may be insured is 300 francs.

A telegram has been received from the G.P.O. London stating that there are no restrictions on the importation of sugar by parcel post into the United Kingdom and that no parcels of sugar recently sent from Hongkong have been confiscated.

Attention is again directed to the necessity for more adequate packing of parcels addressed to United Kingdom. All parcels insured and ordinary, to and from United Kingdom are now forwarded in bags and very careful packing is necessary to ensure safe transmission.

A direct exchange of Money Orders with the Republic of China has come into operation since the 1st January 1920.

The Money Order Service with the Philippine Islands has been resumed since the 1st Jan., 1920.

The parcel post service to Cuba is suspended.

It is notified that all restrictions as to the use of wireless telegraphy by Merchant Vessels on the China Station have been abolished.

The Services to Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire are suspended.

No unofficial letter addressed to Abadan, Ahwas or Mohammara in the Persian Gulf may exceed eight ounces in weight.

Registered and Parcel Mails are closed 15 minutes earlier than the time given below unless otherwise stated, and where mails are advertised to close before 9 a.m. registered and parcel mails are closed at 6 p.m. on the previous day.

In the case of Mails closing before 9 a.m. Registration closes at 5 o'clock on the previous evening.

## INWARD MAIL.

FRIDAY, February 5.  
Bombay—Per SHINYO MARU.  
Shanghai—Per HUICHOW.

SATURDAY, February 7.  
Straits—Per BENLEVI.

SUNDAY, February 8.  
Japan & Shanghai—Per RAMQ MARU.  
Straits—Per TAKADA.

## OUTWARD MAIL.

THURSDAY, February 5.  
Macao—Per CHUEN CHOW, 4.15 p.m.

FRIDAY, February 6.  
Macao—Per SUI AN, 8.15 a.m.

SWATOW, Amoy and Foochow—Per QUINNEBAUG, 11 a.m.

Straits, Bangkok, Ceylon, Mauritius, South Africa, India via Dhanushkodi, Egypt and EUROPE via AGAFESOR, Registration 9.45 a.m. Letters 10.30 a.m.

Philippine Islands—Per LOONGSANG, 2 p.m.

Macao—Per CHUEN CHOW, 4.15 p.m.

SATURDAY, February 7.  
Macao—Per SUI AN, 1.15 p.m.

Amoy, Shanghai and North China—Per TUKIKI, 2 p.m.

Shanghai and North China—Per YINGCHOW, 3 p.m.

Macao—Per CHUEN CHOW, 4.15 p.m.

SUNDAY, February 8.  
Macao—Per SUI AN, 8.15 a.m.

SWATOW, Amoy and Foochow via Keelung—Per KANG MARU, 9 a.m.

MONDAY, February 9.  
Straits, Bangkok, Ceylon, Mauritius, South Africa, India via Dhanushkodi, Egypt and EUROPE via AGAFESOR, Registration 9.45 a.m. Letters 10.30 a.m.

Philippine Islands—Per TUKIKI, 2 p.m.

Shanghai and North China—Per YINGCHOW, 3 p.m.

Macao—Per CHUEN CHOW, 4.15 p.m.

TUESDAY, February 10.  
SWATOW and Bangkok—Per CHANG CHOW, 8 a.m.

Shanghai and North China—Per ICHANG, 10 a.m.

Straits, Bangkok, Ceylon, Mauritius, South Africa, India via Dhanushkodi, Egypt and EUROPE via AGAFESOR, Registration 9.45 a.m. Letters 10.30 a.m.

Philippine Islands—Per TUKIKI, 2 p.m.

Shanghai and North China—Per YINGCHOW, 3 p.m.

THURSDAY, February 12.  
Shanghai and North China—Per SUNNING, 11 a.m.

## NOTICES.

**"SOLIGNUM"**

THE ONLY REMEDY AGAINST DESTRUCTION OF WOODWORK BY WHITE ANTS AND DRY-ROT.

**"SOLIGNUM"**

DOES NOT EVAPORATE, CRACK OR PEEL, BUT SEARCHES RIGHT INTO THE WOOD.

Sole Agents:  
**ARNHOLD BROTHERS & Co., Ltd.**  
1A, Chater Road. Phone 1500.

## HATS FOR THE RACES.

A consignment of choice  
**SPRING HATS** is now  
on view at

No. 9, BEACONSFIELD ARCADE.

**"LA FAVORITE."**

FREE INSPECTION INVITED.

## FIERCE FIGHT ON SHIP.

The hearing in the so-called "Japanese Murder Case," was resumed before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy this morning. The third fireman of the O.S.K. "Taikoku Maru" is accused of the murder of the second fireman by stabbing him to the heart with a dagger in the course of a fight on board, on Jan. 24, while the ship was lying at anchor in Hongkong harbour.

Mr. S. Vergara, building inspector, P.W.D., put in a plan of the passage-way on the portside of the ship where the murder was alleged to have taken place.

Chimbu Akinama, first fireman on board the "Taikoku Maru," said at 7 a.m. on Jan. 24, he was having breakfast in the mess room on the port side of the ship. The deceased, the accused and four other members of the crew were also in the mess room. The defendant and the deceased were standing near the table quarrelling. Witness and the others were having their meal while the two quarrelled. When witness entered the mess room they were quarrelling already. The

quarrel was over a leak in the boiler. The defendant asked the deceased why he did not patch up the leak and the latter said the defendant had no right to order him. They then came to blows, and the defendant knocked the deceased down. The latter returned to his room and came out with a dagger in his right hand. The defendant picked up a poker and hit the deceased on the head with it. Then closing with the deceased, he grabbed his right hand and struggled with him. The two tumbled out of the mess room onto the deck where they continued the struggle. Witness then saw that the deceased was bleeding from his nose and mouth. The defendant had by this time succeeded in snatching the dagger from the deceased's hand, and fearing he would stab the deceased, witness knocked the dagger out of the defendant's hand into the sea.

His Worship: The doctor said the deceased had a wound in the chest, how did he receive that wound?—I don't know.

Did you see the defendant fall?—Yes.

Did you examine him?—No, someone else did.

The hearing is proceeding.

## LIST OF PASSENGERS.

## DEPARTED.

Per Suez Maru—Mr. and Mrs. J. Brodie, Mrs. E. Goldenberg, Mr. Wallace Farley, Mrs. Wm. H. Clarke, Miss L. Clarke, Capt. and Mrs. Rolfe, Miss Rolfe, Dr. Miss E. G. Beatty, Miss A. Grandin, Miss E. Harlan, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Callahan, Mr. and Mrs. L. Dunbar, Mr. Rabbit, Mr. and Miss Gibbs, Mr. E. M. Stratton, Miss N. Barnes, Mrs. V. Monroe, Capt. and Mrs. R. Swain, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Zollner, Mr. and Mrs. A. Addelson, Mr. J. H. Abelson, Mr. A. Rugh, Mr. L. M. Arnsperg, Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Digby, Mr. A. Recto, Mr. R. Umalt and Mr. A. G. Taylor.

## DEPARTURES.

The s.s. AMAZON (Capt. Lapoussé) sailed for Yokohama via Shanghai at 11 a.m. to-day with 760 tons of general cargo.

The s.s. LINAN (Capt. Cole) sailed for Singapore via Swatow at 10 a.m. to-day with 530 tons of general cargo.

The s.s. SWAN (Capt. Leggs) sailed for Shanghai at 11 a.m. to-day with 400 tons of general cargo.

The s.s. PYRRHUS (Capt. Clark) sailed for Shanghai at 7 a.m. to-day with through general cargo.

The s.s. HALICING (Capt. Stewart) sailed for Foochow via Swatow at noon to-day with 1,700 tons of general cargo.

## ARRIVALS.

February 5.

The s.s. WAR SINGER (Brit.), 8,211 tons, from Tarsakan, Capt. Williams, A. P. Co., Tai Kok Tui.

The s.s. GREGORY APCAR (Brit.), 2,988 tons, from Kobe, Capt. H. G. Ellis, M. & Co., Ltd.

The s.s. BANSHI MARU (Jap.), 2,015 tons, from Chin Wan Tso, Capt. Tomozawa, Daido, Ltd.

The s.s. GLENARMOY (Brit.), 4,658 tons, from Shanghai, Capt. Jangier, J.M. & Co., Ltd.

## CLEARANCES.

February 5.

The s.s. KATSUNRA MARU (Jap.) cleared to-day and will sail for Haiphong at 9 a.m. to-morrow.

The s.s. TAIKOO WAN II (Brit.) cleared to-day and will sail for Hongkong at 10 a.m. to-morrow.

The s.s. MOORISH PRINCE (Brit.) cleared to-day and will sail for New York via Manila and Singapore at 6 a.m. to-morrow.

The s.s. SAI CHOI (Chi.) cleared to-day and will sail for Shanghai at 4 p.m. to-morrow.

## DEPARTURES.

The s.s. PAOTING (Brit.) Capt. Hope, Agents B. & S., left for Hongkong to-day.

The s.s. PERANANG (Brit.) Capt. Hessey, Agents Cheong Fat, left for Singapore to-day.

The s.s. WA SUN (Brit.) Capt. Summerville, Agents Wang Hing, left for Kwong Chai, Wa to-day.

The s.s. JUNO (Dutch) Capt. De Boete, Agents A. P. C. left for Canton at 3 p.m. to-day.

## ENTERTAINMENTS.

THE  
**CORONET**

TO-NIGHT, at 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.  
George Pearson and T. A. Welsh  
present  
Bruce Bairnsfather and Arthur Eliot's  
World Renowned play,  
**"THE BETTER 'OLE."**  
Usual Prices. Booking at the Theatre.

THE  
**HONGKONG**  
THEATRE.

TO-NIGHT! TO-NIGHT!!  
at 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.  
GEORGE FAWCETT  
AND  
MYRTLE STEDMAN  
IN  
**"THE MAJESTY OF THE LAW"**  
A Paramount Feature in Five Parts.  
and COMEDIES.  
Booking at the Theatre.

THE  
**VICTORIA THEATRE.**

FOR TO-NIGHT & TO-MORROW ONLY!  
Miss Adelaide  
THE NOVELTY DANCER  
In Her Latest Fancy Dances  
Frank Keenan  
IN  
**"THE BELLS"**  
In Five Intense Parts.  
TO-DAY'S MATINEE:  
**"INSTINCT"**

THE PALACE MOTOR CAR COMPANY,  
KOWLOON  
STUDEBAKER, CADILLAC, BUICK, OVERLAND & HUDSON.  
Best Cars for Hire and for Sale at reasonable Rates.  
Export Drivers. Moderate Price.

## FIRE ENQUIRY.

At the Magistracy yesterday afternoon, the enquiry into the circumstances attending the fire which broke out on the premises of the Yue Fat Loong rice firm of No. 99 Connaught Road West on the morning of January 29, was resumed before Mr. N. L. Smith.

Mr. E. J. Lewis appeared for the insurance companies concerned, whilst Mr. A. H. Crew watched the proceedings in the interest of the Yue Fat Loong firm.

The assistant accountant of the Yue Fat Loong firm was called and in reply to Mr. Lewis said that the rice was burned to ashes. A quantity of rice bags on the ground floor escaped damage. There was a quantity of burned rice still in the godown. These were contained in gunny bags, and were stored on the ground floor. It was not unusual in a rice firm to have 600 bags of rice stored on the second floor.

By Mr. Crew: The books of the firm contained all particulars concerning the rice which was included in the claim sent to the insurance companies. They also showed from whom the rice was purchased.

Inspector Macdonald said that at 5 a.m. on January 29, in consequence of a telephone message, he went to No. 99 Connaught Road West. The flames were beginning to spread, when he arrived, to the first, second and third floors. After the fire had been extinguished, he examined the premises and found the whole building had been gutted. The assistant accountant of the Yue Fat Loong firm informed him that there were 2,000 bags of rice in the gutted building. There was a large quantity of rice on the ground, but it did not appear to be the remains of the estimate by the accountant. There were no signs of arson.

In reply to Mr. Lewis the witness said that the fire was fiercer on the first floor than on the upper floors.

## MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS.

The C.P.O.S. Co.'s R.M.S. *Empress of Japan* arrived at Kobe on 3rd Jan. a.m. left there 3rd Jan. p.m. due at Yokohama on 4th Jan.

The P. & O. B.I. & A.L. s.s. *Cripsy* 4,000 tons left for this port on the 31st ultimo at a.m. and is due here on the 4th instant at about a.m.

The P. & O. S.N. Co. s.s. *Sangola* left Shanghai for this port on 31st ultimo 9.30 a.m. and is due here on the 4th instant at 6 a.m.

The P. & O. S.N. Co. s.s. *Alde* left Singapore for this port on the 24th instant at 5 p.m. and is due here on the 6th Feb.

The Ben Line s.s. *Benedict* from Middlesbrough and London left Singapore for this port on 30th ultimo and may be expected to arrive here to-morrow daylight.

The N.Y.K. s.s. *Shimo Maru* (Bombay Line) left Bombay for this port direct on the 15th Jan. and is expected here on the 6th Feb.

The N.Y.K. s.s. *Tokyo Maru* (European Line) left Singapore for this port on the 3rd Feb. and is expected here on the 8th Feb.

Rice falling to the ground floor from a height would, to some extent, have the effect of putting out the fire. In a rice fire all the rice would accumulate on the ground floor, as the fire spread to the upper floors. If there had been 2,000 bags of rice in the shop, he would expect to find more debris. The fire was fierce, and the heat was intense.

By Mr. Crew: When the fire was in progress, he saw rice falling into the gutted building from the upper floors.

Mr. L. E. Lammert, of the firm of Geo. P. Lammert, auctioneers and surveyors, said that he had surveyed No. 99 Connaught Road West. He was of opinion that there were about 700 bags of rice in the gutted building. In making his calculation, he was giving the benefit of any doubt to the insurer.

The enquiry was, at this stage, adjourned until Saturday.